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APRIL 16 - APRIL 22, 1997

Tiger Woods is the Master



Masters Champion, Tiger Woods

AUGUSTA—Fifty years ago, the year Jackie Robinson broke baseball's color line, Teddy Rhodes and Howard Wheeler were riding buses and trains around the country as the stars of golf's Negro National Tour playing anywhere a promoter could attract an audience to see them play. It was fourteen years later when the PGA lifted its "Caucasian clause," allowing Charlie Sifford to break golf's color line. It was a PA victory in 1975 that enabled Lee Elder to become the first black man to play in the Masters, golf's most prestigious event that until then was shut out to African-Americans. Since then only three other African-Americans have participated in the tournament: Jim Thorpe, Calvin Peete, and now Eldrick "Tiger" Woods. Last Sunday just days before the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's historic milestone, Woods added another note for the record books. With a record breaking score of 270, he became the first African-American, and at the age of 20 the youngest, to win the event at Augusta National. Among the spectators cheering him on were his parents who hugged him after his historic victory, and Lee Elder, who came from his home in Pompano Beach Florida to attend the event and to see Woods don his green jacket. His 12-stroke victory over Tom Kite was

See WOODS WEARS THE GREEN page 10

AOL CRITICIZED FOR ALLOWING KLAN-RELATED SITE ON INTERNET

BOSTON (AP)—The Anti-Defamation League is criticizing America Online for an Internet site that has a hooded rider holding a burning cross and calls on viewers to "JOIN THE KLAN" and "SAVE OUR LANDS."

Abraham H. Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, asked America Online, the largest U.S. online service, to close the site. The Boston Globe reported Wednesday, Foxman said America Online prohibits racist messages.

Wendy Goldberg, a spokeswoman for America Online, told the newspaper the company closed a Klan-related site that contained material her company considered "provocative." However, the site Foxman is criticizing "is only historical in character," she said.

The site is called "Knights of Ku Klux Klan-cream of Texas," and was created by Michael Douglas Lowe, 48, a carpenter in Waco, Texas, who said he has belonged to the Klan since 1966.

The site calls for establishing "a White Christian Order upon a earth," and denounces "the lies of the race-mixers and mongrelizers" who favor racial integration.

"We feel like we do have a responsibility to the public, and they are getting a service," Lowe said. "On our Web site, we're not anti-Semites, anti-Negro, anti-Catholic."

Steven Freeman, director of legal affairs for the defamations league, said the organization is not advocating censoring the Internet. The group is upset because of the perception that "KKK material is acceptable under America Online rules."

"It constitutes a statement that they don't think these views are offensive under their standards, and that sends a message," said Freeman, who said the group does not intend to take legal action.

Dulles, Virginia-based America Online operates the largest commercial network in the country. Customers can surf the Web and create sites that can be seen by any Internet users.

TORRICELLI WAFFLES ON PROMISE

By Dayle Lamont Jenkins

TRENTON—The Black Ministers Council of New Jersey held a press conference on Thursday charging Senator Robert Torricelli reneged on a promise made to them to appoint one African-American to one of the top three positions on his staff. The conference followed a lunch in which three democratic candidates came to speak to the group.

According to Rev. Reginald T. Jackson, executive director of the Black Ministers Council, Torricelli, saying he would be a fool not to, made the commitment during a meeting Oct. 8, in the midst of the senatorial campaign, with more than thirty ministers from the Council, including Jackson. After his election, in which he received 85 percent of the black vote, Jackson says the promise was not kept and attempts to meet with the new Senator to discuss the matter were in vain, as Torricelli seemed to cut off communication with the Council. Over the past month, they have sent letters to Torricelli about his promise; however, the

Senator responded that he did not make any type of commitment. In addition, a press release from his office suggested that Rev. Jackson's credibility within the African-American community was damaged due to this issue, and that he was merely seeking publicity.

Rev. Jackson requested a meeting for April 3 with Torricelli in New Brunswick, but the senator could not attend, and sent a letter that tried to make amends. "My office simply does not have positions by rank," Torricelli says in his letter. "From (Deputy Chief of Staff) Keith (Roushford) and Deputy Director of Legislative Correspondence, Pennell (Rice)... you can see that I have African Americans in senior positions of a policy-making nature." Jackson says that while he does acknowledge these and the other six African Americans on his staff, and expressed confidence in them, none are in top positions where they have policy-effecting access to the Senator.

The Council is not interested in the fight with the Senator, Jackson told the audience. "In fact, Congressman Torricelli is now Senator Torricelli today because many folk in this room went back to their congregation and their



Rev Reginald Jackson



Senator Bob Torricelli

communities and urged our folk to support him because we thought he was the best candidate... But we also believe that African

Americans can no longer continue to deliver the vote, to divide the pie... and settle for See TORRICELLI WAFFLES page 10

City News Most Influential honors Tuskegee Airmen, Tony Brown

More than 100 corporate, community, religious, education, and political leaders will be honored for their community building efforts to make a difference in New Jersey urban centers.

NEWARK—Leading an initiative to build a sense of community in urban centers and recognizing individuals and corporations making a difference, City News, New Jersey's leading African American newspaper and AT&T will host the Second Annual City News 100 Most Influential which will be held May 1 at the Newark Airport Marriott Hotel.

"One of the most important challenges before us as a State and nations is to rebuild our urban communities," says Dr. Henry Johnson, publisher of City News. "We initiated the City News 100 Most Influential to help create a new energy to bring people together in the interest of re-building urban communities. Every citizen must come to understand the importance of strengthening the cities in order



Tony Brown

to strengthen the economic and social base of New Jersey. We must all work vigorously to See CITY NEWS HONORS page 10

1996 Six-month crime statistics show decline

Overall crime index down eight percent

KEARNY—Overall crime dropped eight percent for the first six months of last year and violent crime dropped nine percent, Governor Whitman and Attorney General Peter Venerio announced today in releasing New Jersey's preliminary 1996 crime statistics.

"Today I am pleased to announce that we are making important progress in our fight against crime," said Governor Whitman, who was also joined in the announcement by Col. Carl A. Williams, Superintendent of State Police and representatives of New Jersey's law enforcement community and local government. "We have enacted tough crime laws to make our streets safer. And the statistics released today show a downward trend in almost every crime category—and across almost every area of our state."

In reporting preliminary reductions in the three major crime categories—overall crime (-8%), violent crime (-9%) and non-violent crime

(-8%), the law enforcement officials noted that the six month figure offer encouragement for the overall 1996 crime report. The preliminary statistics prepared by the New Jersey State Police Uniform Crime Reporting Unit, report the statewide crime index for various categories of crime, including urban, suburban and rural crime, arson, domestic violence, and bias crime.

The six month report is compiled by State Police statisticians from crime statistics and information supplied by New Jersey's 481 police departments, four part-time municipal police departments and the State Police (reporting for 74 municipalities with out local police services).

Only county data are released as part of the six month report. Municipality by municipality data are not released until the State Police's full-year end Uniform Crime Report is issued.

Judge accused of "thwarting the people's will" with injunction against 209

Judge argues injunction based on constitutionality of Proposition 209

By Bob Eggleto

Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Was a federal appeals court judge basking when it spoke of a system that lets one judge thwart the voters' will "with the stroke of a pen"? Or was it merely philosophizing, or lobbying for Rep. Sonny Bono's proposed legislation?

Questions surround an explosive and widely quoted sentence in the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals' ruling Tuesday upholding Proposition 209, the initiative that would outlaw affirmative action based on racial or gender preference.

A liberal law professor described the sentence Wednesday as misleading and inflammatory. A conservative law professor said the court was trying to show its understanding of public resentment against activist judges. And the chairman of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee quoted the court's language as support for his effort to limit federal judges' authority.

The sentence was unrelated to the court's discussion of Proposition 209's constitutionality. Before turning to that question, the court discussed the role of Chief U.S. District Judge Thelton Henderson, whose injunction last December blocked enforcement of the initiative.

Henderson, replying to arguments both in and out of court that he should defer to the people, wrote that the issue was not whether one judge can thwart the people's will but whether the measure complied with the Constitution. The appeals court said Henderson "no doubt... is correct, at least in theory."

If Proposition 209 is actually unconstitutional,

Henderson's decision served to remind the people that "they must govern themselves in accordance with principles of their own choosing," the court said, referring to the Constitution.

But if Henderson was wrong, his decision "operates to thwart the will of the people in the most literal sense," said Judge Diarmuid O'Scannlain of the 3rd appellate ruling. "What the people of California wished to do is frustrated on the basis of principles that the people of the United States neither ordained nor established."

"A system which permits one judge to block with the stroke of a pen what 4,736,180 state residents voted to enact as law tests the integrity of our constitutional democracy." The last sentence quickly found its way into news releases by Gov. Pete Wilson and Attorney General Dan Lungren and virtually every media account of the ruling. It seemed as though the court was questioning the propriety, if not the authority, of any decision by an individual judge to overturn a voter initiative.

The impression created by the court's language is "enormously troubling," said Erwin Chemerinsky, a University of Southern California law professor who opposes Proposition 209.

"What I teach students from the first day of constitutional law is that if a law is unconstitutional, it's the responsibility of courts to invalidate it even if it's favored by 250 million people," Chemerinsky said.

"If (the sentence) is inflammatory and it does mislead the public about what the role of the courts is... I think they wanted to undercut the credibility of Judge Henderson's opinion but didn't think about the long-term consequences of a statement like that."

The more conservative Clark Kelso, a pro-

fessor at McGeorge School of Law, said he thought the court was trying to relate public frustration that may have unintentionally poured gasoline on the flames.

"It's trying to communicate that it appreciates the confusion and resentment the public feels when popular initiatives are declared unconstitutional," Kelso said.

In reporting preliminary news not exempting initiatives from judicial review, merely advising caution. But Kelso said the court appeared to have chosen its language deliberately and must have known it "was going to be picked up."

Both professors said the statement was sure to be cited in support of a bill by Bono, R-Calif., that would require federal lawsuits

against any state initiative to be reviewed by a three-judge panel instead of a single judge.

"This is the exact issue that prompted the introduction of H.R. 1170, and that is the ability of one federal judge to hold in hostage the will of millions of voters," said Frank Cullen Jr., a spokesman for Bono.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said the court had made a statement with which "few would disagree" and announced his own plans for legislation.

Denouncing Henderson for "willful imposition of his own personal agenda," Hatch said he and several other committee members are drafting a measure to "limit the ability of individual federal district judges to invalidate state initiatives or referenda."

NAACP outraged by Prop. 209 ruling

SAN FRANCISCO—A 3-4 decision by Republican appointees of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld California's Proposition 209 ruling that voters can ban affirmative action based on race and gender. The decision sweeps aside an injunction by US District Judge Thelton Henderson and if the new ruling stands, the law would take effect in 21 days.

NAACP President & CEO Kweisi Mfume released a statement concerning the matter:

It is not hard to find evidence that discrimination is still prevalent in America. Whether it is the 77,292 complaints of discrimination that are backlogged at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, a consistently higher unemployment rate among minorities, recent discrimination claims at Texaco and Avis or the continuing discrimination against women recently documented by the Glass Ceiling Commission; discrimination is still, regrettably, a major problem.

We are hopeful that an appeal to the full Circuit Court of Appeals would be successful, and we will also seek out elected officials in the state of California to work with us in order to craft legislation to overturn this recent court decision, if necessary."

Community Calendar

EVERY SATURDAY

PLAINFIELD—Indoor Flea Market, Downtown area. For more information, call 908-869-2363.

THROUGH MAY 1

MONTCLAIR—The Urban League is offering a free homebuyers course for people who want to purchase a home. Graduates will earn a certificate that will help them qualify for a mortgage. 5 weeks, 6:30 pm at Urban League of Essex County. For more information, call 201-624-9535.

APRIL 29, MAY 6, 13

EDISON—JFK Medical Center is offering the "I Can Cope" educational series, a four week program for cancer patients, their families, and friends. For more information, call 908-321-7769.

THROUGH MAY 2

SOMERVILLE—Printmaking classes for children six through nine at the Printmaking Council. For more information, call 908-725-2110.

THROUGH MAY 10

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College will offer a preparation course for the NJ Real Estate Salesperson's (Agent) Licensing Examination on Saturdays 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. on the JCSC campus at 2030 Kennedy Blvd. For further information call (201) 200-3069.

Wednesday APRIL 16

PLAINFIELD—Family story time with Postal storyteller John Lasne, author of the anti-drug "Red Ribbon Story".

Thursday, APRIL 17

NEW YORK—18th Annual Scientific Meeting at the New York University Medical Center. For more information, call 908-235-0062.

PLAINFIELD—Young People's Film Program at the Public Library. For more information, call 908-757-1111.

JOIN THE MEN OF "GLORY" African-American Civil War Reenactors

Enjoy conveying history and portraying the African-American military contribution to the Civil War era. Become a "Civil War Reenactor" of Color with the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry.
Contact Leon Vaughan at 201-566-0356 or write to 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry PO Box 895, East Orange, NJ 07041.

Church unites sisters

NEWARK—Mother Clara Johnson, of Union Baptist Church, along with Mother Pauline Guy, from First Zion Baptist Church, and Mother Annie Mae Moss from Metropolitan Baptist Church, all 92 years old, were honored Sunday at Union Baptist for their lifelong service. Mother Johnson recently has been reunited after seven years with her sister, Mother Margaret Allen, 93, living in New York.



Mother Clara Johnson

Celebrating 50 Years of Service



In honor of those fifty years of service Gamma Zeta received a Proclamation for service. From the office of Mayor Sharpe James of Newark, New Jersey, naming February 22, 1997 Gamma Zeta Day in the City of Newark, New Jersey. The present members of Gamma Zeta Alpha Barnes, Ayesha Cross, Kirstin Riddick, Nicole Hines and Jessica Morrison all students of Rutgers University working with determination and the knowledge of their history work to help Gamma Zeta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated see another fifty years.

Gamma Zeta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, celebrated its 50th anniversary as New Jersey's oldest undergraduate chapter. The chapter commemorated 50 years of service in the Essex County area, by hosting their state's Founders Day Luncheon. This event was held on Saturday, February 22, 1997 at the Newark Airport Marriott with the theme "Looking Back to Move Ahead."

Guest speakers included from the Board of Directors of the Newark Public Library, founding member Josephine Janifer, retired Essex County educator, visionary Ella Rainey, and business executive, former member Lamya Clarke. All members of Beta Alpha Omega chapter whose president, Melody McGowan Payker and vice president, Winifred Walden were in attendance.

Gamma Zeta Chapter president

in Newark, Gamma Zeta Chapter was the first undergraduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated in New Jersey. The main focus of the chapter has always been service to the Newark community. For nearly 50 years, Gamma Zeta has exemplified the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. motto "Service to All Mankind." Gamma Zeta has worked in conjunction with the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), sponsored voter's registration drives at NJIT and Rutgers Newark College campuses, cohosted with the Essex County Arts Council performances by the New Jersey Tap Ensemble and the Dance Theater of Harlem, volunteered for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Telethon, co-hosted seasonal celebrations for the patients of The United Hospital Medical Centre and made visits to the Pediatrics Ward of United Hospitals Medical

Weekly Horoscope

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

If you insist on perfection you will be in for considerable frustration. Be willing to relax your rather unreasonable standards, not everyone in your circle will live up to those expectations, no matter how hard they try.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

There are changes that need to be made at home. Even though your suggestions may not be met with enthusiasm, go ahead anyway, in the long run you'll be glad you pushed. Take time out for yourself, it is essential to your peace of mind.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

Up and routines may be altered, due to unexpected situations that arise. Nip your ego in the bud and behave with courtesy and compassion at work, more will get accomplished this way instead of playing dictator. Act from your heart and not your head with love.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

If a feeling of isolation may overtake you, so make the effort to reach out and touch someone. Relationship issues need to be attended to, so state your needs clearly. If you are feeling stuck at work, hang in there and the solution will appear with little effort at all.

LEO: (July 24 - August 23)

Don't let your ego get the best of you, inducing you to do something really too risky at this point. If you want to advance at work, the time may not be quite right yet. You may experience an awakening in the near future which will affect your attitude.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)

Due to a stunning success in business, or if your love life is improving, you feel like you're sitting on top of the world. Enjoy it! You don't have to give up anything just because things are finally going your way for a change. Strive for the best.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)

Some negative feelings may arise during the month, from issues about trust and betrayal. There is more than hope, there is a real opportunity for success, but only if you are willing to embrace current changes with an open mind. Be willing to listen to others' ideas.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)

Continue to insist on quality and honesty in all of your dealings, especially in issues close to your heart. Do remember in all your interactions with others that the absolute truth is quite hard to come by. You have only your personal truth and limited perspective to work with.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21)

Concerning your love life this week, pay attention to sexual attractions and go for someone who is safe and kind. Push yourself to the limit, for you will only kick yourself later if you fail to accomplish that which is within your grasp. Don't let soul searching get out of hand.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20)

Do something extravagant this week. Although money is usually associated with this activity, time could be your biggest commodity. Take some time for yourself. Harmony at home will bring you a great deal of satisfaction. Review your investments to see if returns can be better.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19)

It's time to talk about your need for independence within your closest relationships. Listen carefully to those words of love, and try to read between the lines. There are a number of things which you can't do alone. If help is not on the way, do the best you can and leave the rest for later.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)

Remove your emotional armor if you really want to get through to someone. Without such a willingness to show your own vulnerability, no one else will feel that they can trust you. The feelings that you have for someone right now are best kept secret, you'll have your chance.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Most think of you as courageous and willing to jump into everything you do with zeal and optimism. And you do tend to plunge in and risk dangers that others fear. This trait is definitely obvious concerning your career advancement, and sometimes in the romance department.

Members of off-off-Broadway production guest speakers at JCSC

Members of the off-off-Broadway production, "On the Block," a musical revue with multiple personalities that has toured throughout the



JCSC graduate student Peter Smith (left) of Orange, a theater at Lincoln School in Newark engaged in an animated conversation with (left) Don Arrington who wrote the music, lyrics, and script; percussionist Rick Cutler; Camille Tibaldeo who contributed to the script; and pianist Susan Lampert. Mr. Arrington and Ms. Tibaldeo star in "On the Block."



Newark Mayor Sharpe James and Irvington Mayor Sara Boat and their top administrative staff recently toured the neighborhoods bordering both their cities in an effort to map out a cooperative plan to improve the area. The meeting was facilitated by Rev. Cornelius Martin, pastor of Unity Freedom Baptist Church. Discussing the tour from left are Newark Police Director Joseph Santiago, Mayor James, Rev. Martin, Mayor Boat, and Irvington Police Director Steven Palmara.

Black journalists offer \$2,000 in college scholarships

TRENTON—April 14, 1992: The Garden State Association of Black Journalists invites African-American high school seniors interested in pursuing careers in journalism to compete for two college scholarships worth \$1,000 each.

Application forms have been sent to high school journalism teachers, community organizations and association members throughout the state. The application deadline is May 1.

Applicants must submit a nominating letter from their school adviser, dean or teacher familiar with their work, a one-page autobiography, ex-

plaining career goals and journalism activities, such as work on school publications internships and writing awards. All materials must be typewritten and double-spaced.

Materials will be judged on writing ability, originality and potential to succeed in a journalism career.

Winners will be notified by June 6. Scholarships will be presented at a special reception.

The Garden State Association of Black Journalists is an nine-year-old organization of print and broadcast journalists and media professionals who live or work in New Jersey.



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MOTHER DESCRIBES COSBY'S LONG-TERM SUPPORT

NEW YORK (AP)—The woman whose daughter allegedly was fathered by Bill Cosby says she received checks from the comedian over the years, one of which was signed by Cosby's wife.

"I believe Camille (Mrs. Cosby) knew. Once in the '80s, I got a check signed by her," Shawn Upshaw told New York Post columnist Cindy Adams after walking out of a taping of "The Ladies Home Show" last week.

On the show, Mrs. Upshaw said Cosby had been financially supportive for more than 20 years, since she told him she was pregnant.

"I called and said I needed something," he would send \$2,000 or \$3,000—\$6,000 in every so many years," she said.

She said that in 1994 Cosby set up a trust fund that has been paying her \$750 a week. She said Cosby also set up a trust for their daughter, Autumn Jackson, but stopped it when the young woman left college.

Jackson, 22, of Los Angeles, awarded trial here on charges of threatening to expose Cosby by her father unless he paid her \$400,000.

Mrs. Upshaw said her daughter had no intention of extorting money from Cosby, but only wanted him to resume his support of her.

"She has been raised her whole life to never tell that her father was a famous man. Never. She was not allowed," Mrs. Upshaw said.

"When she turned 40 and felt she didn't have anything to do, she was going to go to the tabloids and sell the rights to her life story," she said.

"He's never publicly announced that that's his daughter so she felt it was her way that to her that was an affront," she said. "Bill is her father," she asserted flatly.

The interview with Mrs. Upshaw, 44, who previously has been identified as Shawn Thompson from an earlier marriage, is scheduled to air Monday. Adams' account appeared Thursday in the Post.

Cosby has said he does not believe he is Jackson's father, but concedes that he could be. A spokesman for Cosby, David Brokaw, said from Los Angeles that because legal proceedings are involved, Cosby would have no further comment.

Mrs. Upshaw said her sexual relationship with Cosby lasted four nights.

The name of Gerald Jackson, a boyfriend of Mrs. Upshaw's at the time, is on the birth certificate as the father.

Jackson, by satellite from Los Angeles, reiterated that he is the father. When she heard Jackson's voice, Mrs. Upshaw stood, denounced him as a liar, criminal and abuser and strode from the set.

ELLEN DEGENERES ALL THE WAY OUT

NEW YORK (AP)—Ellen DeGeneres says she never wanted to be known as a lesbian actress.

But the 39-year-old comedian, whose character on ABC's "Ellen" will acknowledge her homosexuality on the April 30 sitcom, is also coming out in real life.

"When I decided to have my character on the show come out, I knew I was going to have to come out," DeGeneres said in the April 14 issue of Time magazine. "But I didn't want to talk about it until the show was done."

Ms. DeGeneres says she stopped dating men at about age 20 and recently met a woman with whom she hopes to forge a lasting relationship.

"I never wanted to be the lesbian actress," she said. "I never wanted to be the spokesperson for the gay community. Ever. I did it for my own truth."

GREENSPAN AND MITCHELL MARRY

WASHINGTON, Va. (AP)—Alan Greenspan and Andrea Mitchell, who met when she interviewed him about Social Security, can now plan on sharing their retirements together.

The Federal Reserve chairman and the NBC reporter were married Sunday in the enclosed garden of an inn as a light rain fell on blooming dogwoods in the Virginia country-side.

Barbara Walters, Republican Sen. John Warner of Virginia and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger were among the 75 friends and family members in attendance at the Inn at Little Washington, where the best rooms go for \$390 a night.

Greenspan, 71, and Mitchell, 50, met in 1983 when she interviewed him about the future of Social Security while he was serving on a commission to save the system.

It is the second marriage for both.

BY SONYA ROSS ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House says President Clinton is exploring ways to promote racial healing, after identifying tense race relations as one of the fundamental questions to be addressed in his second term.

Among the ideas Clinton is considering are holding a White House conference on bigotry and discrimination and appointing a commission to spur national dialogue on racial concerns.

The White House spokesman Mike McCurry said Wednesday that racial tension is on the president's mind, and he plans to make "a fairly major

address" on race relations as soon as he has a better idea of what he will do.

"The president ... feels that the question of race relations between Americans of many ethnic and racial backgrounds is one of the fundamental questions that he should address as president," McCurry said. "The wedges that have driven apart Americans around the question of race have subsided ... but there is still hostility and mistrust, racism and bigotry."

A White House task force is examining how previous presidents have dealt with race matters, such as President Truman's effort to integrate the armed forces in the 1940s and President Johnson's response to the urban race riots of the 1960s.

Johnson appointed the Kerner

Commission, which concluded in 1968 that blacks and whites in the United States were gradually becoming divided into two "separate and unequal" societies.

Rahm Emanuel, senior adviser to Clinton, said the conference and the commission are among an array of options under consideration and the two are not mutually exclusive.

"He is analyzing different options, different scenarios. He's working on getting it exactly right," Emanuel said. The conference is being pushed by civil rights activists who have urged Clinton to act to stem an increase in hate crimes and hateful rhetoric.

Aides said privately that Clinton may be inclined to create a commission, but given his longtime interest in

civil rights and his own personal history of civil rights involvement, is unlikely to limit his plan to that. The goal, one senior official said, is to have the program under way in the second half of the year.

In the meantime, Clinton plans to "acknowledge the pain that has existed in the past because of evidence of prejudice and hostility towards the races," McCurry said.

The president has spoken about race on several occasions this year, in speeches such as his inaugural and State of the Union addresses, and in special events such as the January ceremony where he presented the Medal of Honor to seven black World War II veterans.



Min. Farrakhan provides truce in potentially explosive situation

By Dinah Wisenberg Brin Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The Nation of Islam decided to cancel a march through a racially troubled neighborhood here after its charismatic leader, Minister Louis Farrakhan, agreed to lead an interfaith anti-racism rally in its place, officials said.

A beaming Mayor Edward G. Rendell and City Council President John Street rejected over cancellation of a 5,000-man march that they had feared could spark a "disastrous" riot next Monday in the city's Grays Ferry section.

They addressed reporters minutes after local Nation of Islam leader said that Farrakhan would speak at the citywide rally on the morning originally set for the march. Men and women of all faiths and races will be welcome at the rally, and Rendell will participate, officials said.

"This is a successful conclusion that averts a potential disastrous consequence for the city," said Rendell, who wrote to Farrakhan on Friday about the idea of a rally at a large city arena as an alternative to the Grays Ferry march. The exact site had not been determined.

Local Nation of Islam leaders, complaining last month that police were slow to make arrests after a group of white men beat a black family, had scheduled the march in response. Whites in Grays Ferry reacted angrily to those plans.

Rendell, white and Jewish, and City Council President John Street, who is black, had been speaking to white and black residents of the economically distressed neighborhood and encouraging the Nation of Islam to reconsider.

Talks with local leaders produced the idea for Rendell to write to Min. Farrakhan with an offer to speak, the mayor said.

"We hammered home the point that there was great risk involved," said Rendell, who never spoke directly with Farrakhan.

The mayor said his worst fear about the march was a trampling riot provoked by "one racist, one idiot, one outside agitator."

The decision to cancel it in favor of the rally was Farrakhan's, said Minister Rodney Muhammad of Muhammad's Mosque of Islam No. 12 here. Farrakhan had sent staff from his Chicago headquarters to assess the situation in Grays Ferry, said Muhammad, who conferred with both Farrakhan and Rendell.

"Grays Ferry is not isolated when it comes to racism," Muhammad said. "This is bigger than Rodney Muhammad. It's bigger than Grays Ferry. It's bigger than Philadelphia."

Busloads of people from other cities will attend, he said.

Muhammad sat alongside Annette Williams, the black woman beaten on Feb. 23 with her teen-age son and nephew. The Nation of Islam will continue to protect the family, maintain a presence in Grays Ferry and work in local efforts to improve the lives of the poor and blacks, he said.

In his letter to Farrakhan, Rendell expressed confidence that the organizers could keep a march disciplined and positive, but said he feared that an incident started by someone else could trigger a riot.

Such a riot would be a disaster for "the good people of Grays Ferry, who far, far outnumber the bad ones," for the city, which is hosting the Presidents' Summit on National Service in two weeks, and for the Nation of Islam, which would be wrongly blamed, Rendell said.

The city also committed to enhancing housing, recreation, police and other services in Grays Ferry, Street said.

Grays Ferry West Community Action, a black group, scheduled a news conference for today to discuss its plans to proceed with a community

march. City officials said they weren't concerned about that, but Dennis Gallagher of the white Grays Ferry Community Council remained apprehensive.

"It still has the potential for an explosion. Anytime people are angry and upset, you don't know what will happen," he told The Philadelphia Inquirer.

The Rev. Steven Avinger Sr. of the black Greater St. Matthew Baptist Church and co-chairman of a Grays Ferry Catholic-Protestant group formed in recent weeks, praised the cancellation.

"It would have just stirred up more tension, so we're happy that that's not going to take place, and we're looking forward to doing some good things in Grays Ferry," he said.

But local Jewish leaders criticized Rendell's letter to Farrakhan who had harsh words for Judaism in the past. Barry Morrison, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League, praised Rendell for heading off the potential for trouble but decried the solution as a "coup for the Nation of Islam."

"What is at the core of our great distress is the continuing of a legitimate and highly regarded national fig-

ure, the mayor, and a notorious hate-monger, Louis Farrakhan," Morrison told the Inquirer.

Rendell said he didn't insist that he agree with everything public officials say when he appears with them.

He also said he would talk to Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua about attending the rally.

Racial divisions in Grays Ferry worsened when, after march plans were announced, a white son of a police officer was shot to death during a drug store holdup. Two black men were charged, but authorities said the slaying of Christopher Brinkman, 16, was

not racially motivated.

Mrs. Williams' family still has police guarding her home around the clock. Seven white men have been charged with beating them; police say at least 20 men who left a party at a church hall attacked the family.

Grays Ferry clergy held a prayer service last week, and on Monday the new interdenominational Clergy Council announced plans to bring different community groups together and launch economic development projects.

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Rejuvenating our cities

Race Matters

Last week, California's Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Proposition 209, the ballot measure curtailing state affirmative action programs. Supporters of the initiative offered a simple rationale: King Jr., saying a person should be judged by their character, not their color, as though color is no longer a factor in America.

Just last week, however, a story in a major daily reported that the resegregation in public school is rising at the fastest rate since the 1954 ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*. Whites are simply abandoning schools with large minority populations, and those schools are now suffering from malign neglect. There is also the recently released videotape of a Philadelphia prosecutor running for District Attorney lecturing fellow prosecutors ten years ago about avoiding black jurors as they may be biased against convictions. Another New York paper had the nerve to write an editorial first deploring the prosecutor incumbent opponent "playing the race card" by releasing the tape, then suggests the prosecutor was right, pointing to the OJ criminal trial as an example of black juror bias. One need only to recall the discrimination cases against Texaco, Denny's, Avis, and other corporations that have been in the news lately. One also needs to read this edition of the *City News* and find stories about the bias in the cable industry, as well as the racial unrest in a Philadelphia suburb.

All this makes it clear that affirmative action is still needed. While its opponents claim that race is irrelevant today, there is substantial evidence that race is still a major factor in America.

What's in a Name? African-American or Multiracial?

By Dr. Manning Marable

The most important thing any oppressed people can do for themselves is to define who they are. Identity begins with naming yourself, in finding your own voice. This is the reason that "names" have always been significant to African Americans.

In slavery, the white oppressors sought to destroy our culture, to deny us our memories and traditions as an African people. In Jim Crow segregation, white racists harried epithets like "nigger" at us, to destroy and to belittle us. In successive generations, black people have asserted themselves and our unique identities by what we've called ourselves. And through that evolution of names from colored, Negro, black and African American we have endeavored to speak to our own history and culture.

Today, there are some people in the Federal government who favor the creation of a new name to redefine many Americans of African descent, as well as other racialized minorities: "multiracial."

At the present time, the Federal government uses only four classifications to define "race" in the United States: black, white, Asian or Pacific Islander, and American Indian. There are also two "ethnic" categories, Hispanic and non-Hispanic, who may be either black or white. There are many problems with this arbitrary system of classification. People who have very different histories, incomes, educational and social opportunities are lumped together in an undifferentiated category. Does it make any sense to classify Japanese Americans, whose average income is well below that of African Americans? Is it well to do whites from Argentina, Uruguay and Chile anything in common with black Dominicans and Puerto Ricans, besides speaking Spanish?

As bad as the present system of race/ethnic classification is, some

By Gov. Christine Todd Whitman

Whenever I think of our New Jersey cities, I think of the many courageous men and women determined to restore their neighborhoods to what they once were, I think of the people who live, work, and raise families there - people who deserve economic opportunity, good schools and safe streets.

I have seen how centralized government has disenfranchised neighborhoods and families by giving them no voice in how billions of dollars are spent in their behalf. That is why my administration has taken a different approach to rebuilding our cities. Our approach puts neighborhoods and people in charge of their own destiny.

Our approach unites community residents, government and the private sector in partnerships to revitalize cities, create jobs, promote home ownership, and improve schools.

At the beginning of my term, we established the Urban Coordinating Council (UCC) to help people in cities develop and implement neighborhood revitalization plans. Along with the new Office of Neighborhood Empowerment in the Department of Community Affairs, the UCC is assisting residents in places like Elizabeth, Trenton, New Brunswick, Newark and Camden. As long as there are concerned people in our cities, we'll be there to work with them.

We've also started the Fund for Community Economic Development.

By Leah Smith

Bill A-1541 is presently pending in Legislation. This bill, if passed, will continue to perpetuate the excess imprisonment of African American people, especially males. It will cause the building of more prisons or juvenile delinquency facilities, with no type of rehabilitative programs being encouraged or given.

It will continue to warehouse men longer, there is already a mandatory minimum sentence requirement in effect and give them nothing during their prison stay to bring about, any reformation of character, or values, and there will be no commitment on the part of corrections to offer any type of educational or job skill programs.

Thus, they will be sent back to our communities probably worse than they were, when they first entered institutions of correction. This of course, is counterproductive to children and

By Carolyn Bennett, Ph.D.

The campaign finance wounds of President Clinton and his people reveals a character concealed by the President in his first inaugural address. And we must demand responsibility.

Not taking the oath of office for the first time, the new President said we have come to change the character of government for the better.

"Let us resolve," he said, "to reform our politics, to end poverty and privilege no longer so bound down the voice of the people."

But in light of his behavior since January 1993, I have come to believe the President mispoke himself.

Not a shadow of a different personal character, one that courts privilege for personal gain and stands in the way of reform. His voice silences the voice of people without power or privilege or ability to pay the going rates at the White House gates.

In the campaign finance disgrace raging in Washington, there emerges a Presidential character for whom higher education, Baptist upbringing and the best connections in the world have not made an ethical life. It reveals a person whose word to the people falls in the heat of desire to ascend to the presidency. And it reveals one who, having reached the pinnacle of power and finished his political campaign, casts aside any pretense of caring for the nation's poor.

The first week in March, President Clinton's policies cut off food stamps for first-time job seekers, creating jobs for people whose families have not worked for generations, people who were encouraged by social policy to stay on welfare, and who have neither job skills nor job-finding skills. In Washington and its Northern Virginia suburbs this past week, veterans of wars walked the street medians begging for crumbs as other poor people set up simulated soup kitchens

Over the next five years the Fund will make available a total of \$30 million in state and private resources for economic development in urban centers. The Fund will be used by community economic development organizations for loans to micro-enterprises and small businesses that don't easily qualify for bank financing. It will also enhance real estate development projects, like community centers.

Last year, we created the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority (NJRA). The NJRA will focus exclusively on economic development in cities. The Authority has \$9 million available for small business loans, and it can issue up to \$100 million in bonds for eligible projects.

In 1996, we expanded the state's award-winning Urban Enterprise Zone (UEZ) program, adding seven new zones for a total of 27 statewide. In total, UEZs have generated more than 39,000 jobs and \$8 billion in private investment.

Our Business Employment Incentive Program, which also began last year, provides grants to businesses expanding or relocating in New Jersey based on the amount of personal income tax their new employees are expected to pay that state. Urban business that create at least 25 new full-time jobs in urban areas are eligible to participate in this program.

At the same time that we have expanded economic opportunity for urban citizens, we have also improved access to safe, affordable housing for buyers and renters. My \$700 million

housing program has helped thousands of families become homeowners or renters in good, affordable housing. Every time we help another hard-working family realize the American dream in a city home, we add to our urban strength and the long-term prosperity of our state.

Through our Urban Home Ownership Recovery Program we have provided \$425 million for new construction financing and, by the end of the year, will have created over 2,250 new jobs. In addition, another 200 families will become homeowners because of our "Too Good But It's True" mortgage program, which provides no-money-down, 5% interest mortgages for first-time homebuyers in eleven urban areas.

This program has enabled people like Frances Brookes, a single working mother who had been renting a small two bedroom apartment with her three children, to secure a mortgage payment that is less than what she used to pay for rent.

It's not enough, of course, to give families a safe place to live if their children don't go to school in an environment that encourages learning. So we're no longer going to measure education by how many dollars we spend—we're going to measure it by how many children we learn.

We've developed a set of curriculum standards that are rigorous and demanding. We're going to test children periodically on what they've learned, and we're going to force school districts to change how

they spend your money if the students aren't learning.

What's more, we are pursuing an exciting experiment with 17 charter schools - the majority in urban centers - which allow parents, teachers and other community members to design innovative approaches to teaching the core curriculum.

Since the beginning of my administration, the state's 30 urban districts have received over \$5.6 billion in new funding plan will provide an increase of \$16 million in the 1997-98 school year.

And, so that every student has access to the best and brightest teachers and programs, we're investing \$50 million in what we call a new distance-learning network. This investment will let students in Paterson see how a farm operates in Warren County, or let students in Atlantic City take part in an experiment at the Liberty Science Center without leaving their classroom.

Last but not least, we've recognized that children in some communities often need a head start before entering school. So, our new funding formula provides funding for important programs like pre-school and full-day kindergarten.

Community involvement is giving neighborhoods and families a new sense of optimism. I am determined and committed to make state government a partner in helping families in our communities reclaim their neighborhoods and their schools for their children.

Please contact Assemblywoman Diane Allen and Gov. Whitman State your opposition to this bill, and the need for more emphasis to be placed on providing rehabilitative opportunities for those prisoners who show a desire to benefit from these opportunities. Also, set up programs to encourage rehabilitation by making it mandatory for prisoners to get high school diplomas, job skills, life skills, Counseling sessions and other such classes.

Research indicates that the majority of people who are arrested are scheduled to parole within 5 to 10 years. Therefore, it behooves the policy makers of this state to address these concerns, and realize that the building of more prisons isn't the answer if there is nothing for prisoners to do once they are locked up.

Smith is the Secretary of the Advocates for Children & Families of the incarcerated. To contact her, write to PO Box 713, Green Brook, NJ 08812-0713.

You Need Demand Penal Reforms

families. "Today, more than 1 million children have parents spending time in jail, and that number is growing." (Emergence Magazine, 1997).

This situation creates opportunities with no men, women with no mates and young males with no appropriate male images. It is a continuation of the war on the black family, that is already raging.

It was stated by Ellen Barry, of San Francisco, who heads the National Network for Women in Prison, "You can have women in prison who want about how people should be treated for their offenses, but we're creating monsters."

We adamantly oppose this bill, and we have written and signed the names below and voice your opposition to this bill. Furthermore, we ask that you would also demand that the department of "corrections" do what we have asked, and that they provide rehabilitative services to the men and women that are locked up in this state.

Tax payers and voters should de-

mand that these facilities encourage rehabilitation by offering programs to help people learn a skill or trade, get their GED, have Professional Counseling Programs, and equip them to re-enter society.

Recidivism is high, because all programs to impact positive life style changes have been virtually eliminated. Building more prisons isn't the answer. Locking people up longer isn't the answer. It creates an ecological imbalance in the communities. And this is presently being felt, and will continue to escalate as time goes on.

Keeping people locked up longer, with absolutely nothing to do can only insure failure and guarantee that there will be high recidivism. This situation probably occurs because 90% of the men in jails are African American. And what better way to insure competition for jobs and other opportunities that this society makes available in limited quantities???

Finance disgrace raging in Washington

near the White House protesting the cutoff of food stamps.

And as the poor were banished from the White House and from its agenda, news reports said hundreds of dollars were raised to send President Clinton and, of those millions, nearly \$3 million were returned to senders because the taking of the money broke Federal election laws. For those who swore in two inaugurations to uphold the laws of our country broke the laws. He or his people. It doesn't matter who in his administration he is, because he is the president and he prohibited fund raisers in federal buildings, prohibited the source of the funds and the exchange of monies on federal property.

There is another side to this argument, but it won't wash. Saying that members of Congress, Republicans as well as Democrats, raised campaign money by the same rules and with the same reckless abandon as the President did is a pious lie.

It is not enough to make the child's argument "they did it too." To argue that wrongdoing is something other than wrong doesn't make the wrong right. Mr. Clinton knows that.

He is good at calling things "just wrong." This time he is just wrong, wrong in the way he gathered funds, where he gathered funds in his obsession with raising funds to "save America" from the "right-wingers, and in the innumerable amount of money he raised in the face of, and in flagrant disregard for, the poor in this country.

The President, like no one else, had the power to stop campaign finance wrongdoing.

Since he knew the system was corrupt, he could have used his bully pulpit to expose it. Why didn't he? Why didn't he expose the bad money that was pouring in from Congress and the White House, and present? Why didn't he speak out repeatedly, drive out corruption and drive down the cost of policy? Why didn't he insist that his people, includ-

ing the Vice President, refuse to take hundreds of thousands of dollars for a cup of coffee and a guarantee that there will be high recidivism. This situation probably occurs because 90% of the men in jails are African American. And what better way to insure competition for jobs and other opportunities that this society makes available in limited quantities???

He had the children by abusing the high privilege given him and by failing to set a good example for other boys and girls who will never have such high privilege and the worst tragedy of all is, he knows better.

It is a great tragedy when an education at Yale and Georgetown and Oxford, England seems not to make a difference for the better in Man's ethics and social responsibility.

It is a tragedy that voters trusted Bill Clinton twice when he was a presidential candidate. Wanting to believe he was a good man—despite public accusations of his character—they did not overly scrutinize his qualifications.

He had been a poor boy—and some could do with this—from one of the poorest states in the union. He had made no inventions or discoveries for America, contributed no great ideas to the country. He had not served in the military or the Peace


Corps. But the country gave generously to him, raising him from a poor boy to aspire to the presidency. And the people trusted him with the leadership of their country. And he betrayed that trust.

He failed the children by abusing the high privilege given him and by failing to set a good example for other boys and girls who will never have such high privilege and the worst tragedy of all is, he knows better.

"Americans deserve better," the President said in his first inaugural speech. They deserve something better than "a place of intrigue and cabalulation," he said about the nation's capital, [where] "powerful people maneuver for position and worry endlessly about who is in and who is out, who is up and who is down, forgetting those people whose toil and sweat sends them here and paves our way."

He said, "We must offer more opportunity to all and demand responsibility from all."

And, so, America, having given President Clinton great opportunity, must now demand his responsibility.



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COLUMBUS HEALTH CENTER HOLDS CHILDREN'S HEALTH FAIR

NEWARK—Columbus Health Center located at 66 Solesome Street in the Ironbound section of Newark, is sponsoring a children's health fair on Saturday, April 19, between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. The fair is being co-sponsored by St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Local 472, Ironbound Community Corporation, Physician Sales & Service and Pitzer Labs.

The health fair will feature free screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, scoliosis, a height and weight check and nutritional counseling. Participants should fast for 12 hours prior to having their blood drawn. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. For information, call (201) 589-5099.

NEWARK BAR'S LIQUOR LICENSE SEIZED BY DIVISION OF TAXATION

NEWARK—Investigators from the New Jersey Division of Taxation yesterday seized the liquor license of Panterez, a bar located at 955 Frelinghuysen Avenue, for nonemployment of state taxes totaling \$7,823.

Division Investigators were assisted in the seizure by officers of the Newark Police Department.

Judgments have also been entered against Olivera Enterprises, Inc. the company which operates the business, and J. Olivera, an officer of the company.

"The Division is determined to pursue back taxes owed to the state," said Division of Taxation Director Richard D. Gardner. "In a matter of weeks, we will be awarding citizens of Newark: When some people choose not to pay the taxes they owe, everyone else pays more in the long run."

Gardner noted that the Division "seizes the assets of a business which can include a liquor license only as a last resort and only when the taxpayer continues to ignore numerous warnings from the Division. We want to give people every possible opportunity to enter an arrangement to pay their taxes and avoid a seizure. But if they ignore these requests, we have a responsibility to use all the compliance tools at our disposal," he said.

If the liability of the business is not resolved, the Division of Taxation can sell the business assets at public auction. If the amount raised by auction is not enough to satisfy the debt, the investigators can seize the personal assets of the responsible corporate officers.

A CHILDREN'S PLACE EXHIBITS ITS ART

PLAINFIELD—Chicks, bunnies, pussy willows, forsythia, umbrellas and lions are featured in "Spring Things," an exhibit of art mounted at the Plainfield Public Library. Lions as "Spring things?" Well, it is spring as seen through the eyes of 4- to 6-year-olds enrolled in the preschool program of "A Children's Place," an outreach of Mulhens Regional Medical Center.

The art is comprised of compositions by sixty students, mounted in two huge paper quilts on display through April in the Library's foyer gallery space.

The center offers child-care from age 2 months through full-time kindergarten. The program is housed in a parklike setting at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in South Plainfield. For more information, contact Kathy Gallagher at 668-3154.

NEWARK TEACHERS TO PRESENT AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

NEWARK, N.J.—A team of Newark Public Schools' top English teachers and staff developers have been invited to present "Stories From Newark: A Collaborative Approach to Urban Education" to their colleagues at the National English teachers' conference.

The teachers and staff developers will present innovative teaching methods and materials that have been developed at the Harold Wilson School with the assistance of Monclair State University.

Participants at the conference will include Elaine Lane, a staff developer at George Washington Carver School; Joanne Pugliese, a language literacy teacher at Harold Wilson Middle School; Marshal Ragland, a staff developer at Harold Wilson School and Stacey Abdul-Qawi, a computer teacher at Harold Wilson School.

Senator offers \$1000 reward for info on killer

NEWARK—State Senator Ronald L. Rice (D-Essex) is offering a \$1000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the murder of 77-year-old Arthur White.

White, whom police believe was the victim of robbery, was dead when he was found, bound and gagged, by a security guard who came to the scene after a neighbor reported that Mr.

White's door was ajar. White lived at the Roseville apartment complex at 15 Eighth St.

"I won't sit by and allow this to happen. The state has an obligation to see to the safety of its citizens, especially the seniors," said Rice, who is also a Newark City Councilman. "I don't want to give the impression that it is necessary to shell out money to in-

order to encourage folks to do the right thing. I have more faith in the general goodness of people than that, but I feel that we have to send a message as forcefully as possible that we won't tolerate this kind of thing."

"Our seniors need to regain their sense of security and comfort because if they don't, then we all will lose. If we let this happen to our parents and

grandparents and people who have essentially paved the way for us then we truly are in a sad state of affairs," the senator lamented.

If anyone has any information about the case they may call Rice's office at (201) 733-3794, the Essex County Prosecutor's Office at (201) 621-4700, or Newark Police Director Joseph Santiago at (201) 733-6007.

Kenilworth students get inside look at business world

NEWARK—The Newark Public Schools, Office of Early Childhood/GoodStarts Program will sponsor its fourth annual Community Education/Career/Employment Fair on Thursday, April 17, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Camden Street School, 299 Camden Street in Newark.

Parents and family members of children participating in the GoodStarts Program, will meet with representatives from a variety of corporations and agencies to learn about minimum employment requirements and how to fill out job applications.

Dr. Beverly L. Hall, State District Superintendent for the Newark School District, said, "The GoodStarts Program enhances the children's well-being, while enabling parents to improve their circumstances."

The GoodStarts Program, a replica of "Headstart," is a federally funded program that serves children ages 3-4 and provides comprehensive health, nutrition and social services support. For more information call Ms. Patricia Gifford 733-8272.



KENILWORTH, N.J.—Thirty New Jersey high school students, mostly seniors, recently visited Schering Laboratories' facility in Kenilworth, N.J. They were given a tour of the facility and met company representatives in order to learn firsthand about the operations of a Fortune 500 company. The visit was in conjunction with plans to host students at the Governor's 1997 Minority Business Conference and the International Minority Business Corporation (IMBC)'s National International Business Exposition scheduled to be held on April 15-16. In this picture taken at Schering Laboratories, IMBC president CEO Roger E. Hinton is standing to the extreme left, and senior vice president Anthony Hayle to the extreme right. James M. Papp, Schering Laboratories' director of purchasing, is standing second from left, next to Mr. Hinton.

Christian Coalition supports "black Jesus"

By Daryle Lamont Jenkins

UNION CITY—The controversy that has surrounded a black man playing the role of Jesus Christ has resulted in a flood of support for the actor and his performance in *Passion Play*, a play that has run for 82 years annually at the Park Performing Arts Center.

The most recent support came from the Christian Coalition, whose representatives attended the April 5 performance. The performance on this Saturday was to a packed house and the audience enjoyed the show. Desi Amaz Giles, the actor who portrays Christ, received a standing ovation at the play's end. After the performance, Rev. Earl Jackson of Boston, accompanied by the Christian Coalition's state Chairman William F. Thomson, met with Giles and expressed his support, saying that Giles gave a "splendid" performance. "We will stand with all people of faith in defense of religious freedom and against the forces of bigotry," Jackson said. "Showing support and solidarity reveals our sincere desire to build the bridges that will

cross the racial divide."

In February, the Christian Coalition, under the leadership of the Rev. Jackson, has launched a campaign called the Samaritan Project that seeks to have volunteer families take up residence in poor urban areas to help people there. The Christian Coalition, and its far right-wing bent has been one organization that many in the black community have voiced strong opposition to.

"The Christian Coalition writes the first to defend the most sacred and precious of our rights and freedoms as American citizens, and we will always stand against racist and bigoted sentiments that would seek to silence religious expression in a public park," Coalition Executive Director Ralph Reed said in a press release.

On May 10, a conference will be held by the Coalition in Baltimore that is being termed a "national council on racial justice." Jackson is coordinating the event.



Desi Amaz Giles

Long Branch first in youth basketball league



By Avery Grant

FREEHOLD—Long Branch Recreation Team was first place in the Western Conference of the Monmouth County Basketball League by beating Fort Monmouth 46-43 in the final playoff game.

The lead switched back and forth between the two teams during the fast moving, fast breaking game, due to the extraordinary shooting and leadership of Long Branch's Michael Lambert and the exceptional rebounding of Fort Monmouth's Tim Flynn. Both teams demonstrated unusual play making and teaming skills, which kept the crowd applauding and cheering, and on occasion freely "lam-basting" the referees, Marcel Godfrey

and Diane Waespy. The Monmouth County Basketball League, for boys up to 14 years old, had a total of eighteen teams from Asbury Park, Long Branch, Fort Monmouth, Colts Neck and Freehold. The Western Conference was sponsored by the Scot Conover Youth Foundation, and the Eastern Conference by the Boys and Girls Club of Monmouth County.

Long Branch's Lambert received the Outstanding Player Trophy and Fort Monmouth's Flynn received the Sportsmanship Trophy. Long Branch finished the regular season play with a 12-1 record, and Fort Monmouth with a 10-3 record. Colts Neck was third. Kerry Fisher and Carl Meredith coached the Long Branch team, and Sam Shaw coached Fort Monmouth.

Jersey Citizen Action is outraged by Governor Whitman auto insurance reform:

New Jersey Citizen Action, the state's largest citizen watchdog coalition, is outraged by the comments of Governor Christine Whitman on the critical issue of auto insurance reform. Governor Whitman, who has yet to find a single sponsor for her plan on auto insurance reform, acknowledged publicly twice this past week that she doesn't expect any reform to pass until after the November elections.

Stated Joseph M. Shields, NJCA South Jersey/Auto Insurance Organizer, "Christine Whitman's plan for minimal rate reduction and the stripping of our rights was disappointing enough, but apparently now she has broken her platform promise and chosen to dismiss the more than 90,000 signatures that have been gathered on this vital issue. Her lack of leadership is deeply troubling."

The latest Quinnipiac College Poll shows Whitman's approval rating taking a nose dive 10 points in less than two months among New Jersey residents.

New Jersey Citizen Action says they will continue to support the fight for a reduction in auto insurance rates and applauds the efforts of thousands of NJ residents who have raised important concerns on insurance reform. Noted David Paulus, Director of NJCA's door to door canvass which speaks with thousands of the state's residents monthly, "No matter what issue it is we're talking about, whether it's lower electric rates or quality health care, 90% of the people we speak to express a demand for lower auto insurance rates. This is simply not an issue to postpone but one that deserves real leadership and real action."

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residents of Monmouth County



THE MONMOUTH COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS HAS CREATED A FAIR HOUSING OFFICE AND APPOINTED A FAIR HOUSING BOARD

The Monmouth County Fair Housing Board has been established by the Board of Chosen Freeholders to provide policy and guidance on compliance with State and Federal fair housing laws and regulations to protect the rights of all Monmouth County residents. The Fair Housing Office will provide the following services:

1. Coordination of a county-wide approach to ensure fair housing for residents.
2. Establishment of an intake and screening procedure for discrimination complaints. Services will include assistance and counseling on procedures for filing a complaint, help in completing the complaint form, and review and verification process.
3. Provide general information and assistance on housing problems, and when necessary refer clients to other agencies that are funded and staffed to handle a specific housing problem, including referral to the New Jersey Department of Civil Rights.
4. Education, training and technical assistance to individuals, groups, agencies and/or organizations.
5. Acquire and coordinate assistance of New Jersey Division of Civil Rights, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for verification of discrimination practices and negotiating settlement for fair housing problems.

The office will provide service and assistance to the general public however, we have targeted the following groups as our highest priority:

MINORITIES, HANDICAPPED, HOMELESS, SENIOR CITIZENS, FAIR HOUSING GROUPS, CONCERNED HOME/APARTMENT LEASE GROUPS, HOMEBUILDERS, REALTORS, LENDING INSTITUTIONS, AND MUNICIPALITIES

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HOUSING

Business Calendar

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

SOMERSET—Free Seminar, "How to Run a Small Business and Survive," at the Somerset Marriott Hotel. For more information, call 908-356-2400, ext. 105.

NEWARK—Open Mic/Sucesso Seminar platform sponsored by the American Business Council at The Priority Restaurant. For more information, call 201-621-8700.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

PLAINFIELD—A free SBA community assistance seminar will be held at the Plainfield Library. For more information, call 908-527-2946.

FRIDAY, MAY 2

WEST WINDSOR—Business Goes to College conference at Mercer County Community College. For more information, call 609-566-5601, ext. 283.

PICATINNY ARSENAL—5th Government Procurement Exposition at US Army Armament Research, Development, and Engineering Center. For more information, call 201-548-5950.

MAY 8-10

EAST BRUNSWICK—New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners National Business Conference. Keynote speaker, Dede Fields, Founder of the Mrs. Fields cookie empire. For more information, call 908-566-9607.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

READING, PA.—General Meeting of the Delaware Valley Minority Business Resource Council. Sponsored by GPU Energy. For more information, call 215-859-5977.

THURSDAY, MAY 22

NEW YORK—Seminar, "Millennial Fever," sponsored by the Direct Marketing Association. Call 212-768-7277, ext. 1686.

MAY 28-29

NEW YORK—Expo '97 Sponsored by New York/New Jersey Minority Purchasing Council, Inc. Theme: Corporate America and MBEs: Raising the Bar, Breaking the Barriers. Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers. For more information, call 212-522-7632, Monday, JUNE 4.

NEPTUNE—BBP Small Business Outing III at Jumping Brook Country Club. For more information, call 201-242-6237 ext. 222.

Cable industry neglects equal opportunity

NEW ORLEANS—A week ago, Rev. Jackson gave a major address to the National Association of Minorities in Cable. In his speech, Jackson went back through the history of segregation and exclusion in the telecommunications industry, showing the path to the benign neglect of equal opportunity in the industry we see today. Some excerpts:

Cable television began in the foothills of rural Pennsylvania in 1949. Originally designed to bring urban TV signals to rural small towns, cable's culture until the early 1970s was

all White. In the early 1970s, the cable industry "discovered" black and brown America—in the same sense that Columbus supposedly "discovered" America.

The cable industry realized that black and brown Americans living in cities are a huge market their money is green they watch lots of television and they are exceptionally brand-loyal consumers. But by then the ownership structure of the cable industry had already been locked in. Those with a 20-year head start in ownership—none of whom was Black or

Brown—had a hammerlock on the industry.

Today, District Cablevision in Washington, D.C., Percy Sutton's company in Queens, NY, Frank Washington's three small cable systems in CA, and perhaps 2 or 3 other systems are all that's left.

There has never been a limit on the number of cable systems one company can own. Thus a handful of huge "multiple system operators" with extraordinary economies of scale control the industry today. Indeed, two companies control a majority of

America's cable households. Companies like these can outbid any small company for the handful of cable systems which come onto the market. Whose interests do these companies serve? For years cable operators worried the wealthy and White neighborhoods first, and today they continue to scramble for the so-called "high end" market.

It's happening again with the forthcoming Video-on-Demand and specialized Internet services. As telephone companies provide video services in competition with traditional

cable operators. We must watch very closely to ensure that they do not redline poor and minority neighborhoods—just as they redlined poor and enhanced telephone services 90 years ago.

Unfortunately, the FCC did not consider segregationists and race discriminators to lack the requisite character to serve public trustees. Over the course of six decades the FCC deliberately gave away billions of dollars worth of broadcast

see CABLE NEGLECTS EQUAL OPPORTUNITY page 10

Nation's Business Readers Poll indicates Internet use decreased productivity

WASHINGTON—A recent survey of Nation's Business magazine readers on the Internet issues affecting business users found that about half (54%) use the computer-based service for business purposes, while about one quarter (23%) plan to and another quarter (23%) have no plans to do so.

When respondents who use the Internet for business purposes were asked what has been the major impact on their businesses, 15% saw increased productivity, 16% named increased sales and marketing, and 19% cited better communication with workers and/or customers. But 26% claimed decreased productivity and another

23% said the impact is still unclear, and 1% cited legal problems.

The survey was based on 972 respondents to a Where I Stand poll in the March issue of *Nation's Business* magazine, the flagship publication of the US Chamber of Commerce, which has over \$60,000 subscribers who are primarily the owners or managers of small to medium-sized businesses.

"It's clear from this survey that many small businesses are still searching for the utility of using the Net in everyday commerce," said *Nation's Business* editor Mary McElveen. "Nevertheless, most of these business people are committed to establishing a presence on the frontier."

"I think the visceral reaction for many is, 'I'm not sure how this is going to turn out, but there's no way I will allow myself to be outlanked by my competitors,'" added McElveen. "It's basically the wild west of free enterprise, so come well-armed and ready for anything."

For their connection to the Internet, 43% use the large commercial on-line services, 26% use a local phone company, 18% use along distance phone company, while only 8% use a company that provides only Internet connections and 5% use a cable-TV company.

When those who said they do not have a home page were asked if they

planned to establish one within the next 12 months, 39% said yes, 34% said maybe, and 27% said no. Among respondents who said they already had a home page, 67% used an outside consultant to design it, 3% used a current employee and 3% said they did it themselves.

Respondents who said they do not use the Internet for business purposes were asked to name the primary reason, 26% said it's too costly, 31% said it's too complex, 14% said they don't need it, 10% lacked the necessary equipment, and 9% cited security concerns.

When those who said they do not have a home page were asked if they

AT&T Worldnet service reveals new trend in Internet use: Reconnecting with that lost special someone, or friend

Bridgewater, NJ—A recent survey of AT&T indicates that people's use of the Internet to locate old friends, relatives and past loves is so extensive that it constitutes a significant new trend in on-line behavior, and is as important to many users as activities like surfing (the Internet) or email communication.

The on-line survey involving 9,600 subscribers of AT&T WorldNet Service, AT&T's value-added Internet Service, revealed that nearly 40 percent of the respondents have used the Internet to locate someone from their

past, and more than 50 percent said they are aware of the Web's many resources for helping them reconnect with lost contacts.

The survey also indicated there is a large, potent demand for tools that on-line subscribers can use to locate people with whom they have lost contact. More than 92 percent of those responding said they'd like to seek out someone from their past. Although many indicated they had turned to the Web to do so, 33 percent of the survey respondents said they didn't know how to use the resources of the Internet

to find people from their pasts.

"We've identified a clear need among a large number of people for a specific capability," said Dan Odette, director of Content Services at AT&T WorldNet Service. "People have discovered that the same technology that enables them to search for and access information, exchange ideas and make purchases can also help them reconnect with someone important from their past. Wishing you could reach out to someone with a relative, a friend, a teacher or coach who helped shape your life need not be just a daydream any longer. We can help you make it happen."

Odette said information to help

Internet users learn about and use the people-finding resources available to them on-line is now available as part of the directories area of the AT&T WorldNet Service Website. The information is a portion of the AT&T WorldNet Service Website that is accessible by all Internet users. The World Wide Web address is <http://www.att.net>.

AT&T WorldNet Service has more than 800,000 subscribers and offers directories and topical areas to help people find useful information, guided tours for newcomers, navigational aids for users of all skill levels as well as electronic mail.

AT&T honored Actress Ruby Dee



Ruby Dee receives "Nia" Award from Curt Fields, vice president, Strategy and Marketing Services

BASKING RIDGE—As part of a Black History Month celebration, AT&T paid tribute to one of the icons of African American film, noted actress and performer Ruby Dee. During World War II, Ms. Dee worked for AT&T "wiring gyroscope radio equipment for airplanes."

Recently, Ms. Dee was the keynote speaker during an evening of Black History "Reflections, and Renewals" at the AT&T headquarters in Basking Ridge, NJ. Her dramatic presentation, entitled "Dreamers," offered the audience of more than 200 AT&T employees a glimpse of works from black authors and Zora Neale Hurston and Langston Hughes. According to Ms. Dee, both Hurston and Hughes were visionaries who through their writings, brought alive the magic and beauty of blacks' whose culture had not been celebrated. She also paid homage to slain civil-rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., whose dreams were something he "whispered, shouted and died for."

Following her presentation, the

actress was presented with the prestigious "Nia" Award by AT&T's African American Markets Leadership Committee, sponsors of the Black History celebration event. "Nia" or "purpose," is one of the seven principles of Kwanzaa. "Ruby Dee is entitled to this recognition because of her many contributions to black history and culture," said Curt Fields, an AT&T vice president, Strategy and Marketing Services.

In addition to Ms. Dee's performance during the evening of "Reflections, and Renewals," the audience was also entertained with a number of show tunes and spirituals by the Newark Chorus Chorus. After the program, the chorus received a grant for \$50,000 from AT&T to help sponsor the group's tour of South Africa next year.

The AT&T African American Markets Leadership Committee is an organization of employees from the company's management, public relations, advertising, human resources and marketing divisions.

The 20th Annual African American Summit will note the addition of emphasis on trade and investment through the Trade and Investment Exposition. This element of the summit will include a Fair of "strategic networking" between business leaders, corporate representatives, entrepreneurs, banking institutions and venture capitalists. The Fair will serve as a forum for exchange of business and procurement and information. Participants will use this as a vehicle of active dialogue for future business transactions thus promoting trade and investment in Africa.

Five thousand delegates from around the world representing all walks of life including teachers, farmers, physicians, entrepreneurs, politicians, artists, engineers and world leaders are expected to participate. Past summit initiatives have created and instituted such programs as:

- SOS: Help the Children of Africa, sending books and school supplies, bringing literacy to millions of children of Africa;
- Partnerships with the World Bank, funding the building of tube wells benefiting over one million people with water and land irrigation;
- Teachers for Africa Program, sponsoring over 400 Teachers from the United States pilgrimage to Africa to train African teachers in advanced methodology and techniques;
- Debt Relief, forgiving over \$30 Billion debt of developing African countries; and
- Best and Brightest Bankers Program, training African Bankers in state of the art banking procedures and methods.

Summit Organizers have developed a comprehensive package for travel and registration for Summit Participation. This package includes air travel and five star hotel accommodations in London, Johannesburg and Harare. Invitations are being posted. For further information on the Summit, please contact the Summit Office at (908) 853-3530.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

WAYNE—An International Foreign Film Festival featuring film showings and a workshop will be held at William Paterson College. Admission free. For more information, call (201) 595-2157.

RED BANK—Sonny Rhodes at the Court Basie Theatre. For more information, call 908-681-1416.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

IRVINGTON—Poetry Rap Session Featuring Poets Janice Sullivan, Steve Street and Michelle Dalton. At Irvington High School. For more information, call 201-371-7674.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

PLAINFIELD—Basketball game sponsored by the Plainfield Municipal Alliance at the Plainfield High School Gym. For more information, call 908-753-3395.

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

NEW BRUNSWICK—Bob McGrath (*Sesame Street*) and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at the State Theatre. For more information, call 1-800 ALLEGRO.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

TRENTON—Bob McGrath (*Sesame Street*) and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at the Court Basie Theatre. For more information, call 1-800 ALLEGRO.

THURSDAY, MAY 1

WESTBURY—Lou Rawls/Nancy Wilson, 8 p.m. at the Westbury Music Box. For more information, call 516-334-0800.

ENGLEWOOD—Bob McGrath (*Sesame Street*) and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at the John Harms Center. For more information, call 1-800 ALLEGRO.

FRIDAY, MAY 2

RED BANK—Bob McGrath (*Sesame Street*) and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at the Court Basie Theatre. For more information, call 1-800 ALLEGRO.

HYDE PARK—Bus trip to Vanderbilt Mansion sponsored by Planned Parenthood of Greater Northern New Jersey. For more information, call 201-539-9580, ext. 133.

SATURDAY, MAY 3

UPPER MONTCLAIR—Concert celebrating 20th Anniversary of the Preparatory Center for the Arts at Memorial Auditorium, Montclair State University. For more information, call 201-655-4443.

NEWARK—Exhibit, "The Gitter & the Gink: Fashioning America's Jewelry" at the Newark Museum. For more information, call 201-596-6550.

MONDAY, MAY 5

ISELIN—Third Annual "Evening of Good Taste," sponsored by the Women's American ORT, at the Sheraton Woodbridge Place. For more information, call 908-990-9052.

SATURDAY, MAY 31

NEWARK—17th Annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon sponsored by the Council on Community of the Crescent at the Airport Marriott. For more information, call 201-373-4020.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

PLAINFIELD—Habitat for Humanity is sponsoring a benefit concert to sponsor the Greater Plainfield Chapter of Habitat for Humanity at the Crescent Ave. Presbyterian Church. For more information, call 908-287-1200.

THE SCOOP

The Talk of the Town

By Janice Malone

It's time for a little bit of gossip! Let's start with sexy diva Toni Braxton. Did you notice the shoes she wore to the Grammy Awards? One of our sources told us that they reportedly cost \$875 and that was a mark-down from the original price of \$2,000! Anyway, we were told that they were slinky high-heeled sandals that tied around the ankles. And get this, the very next day the shoes were returned to the store. Why? We were told Ms. Toni reportedly didn't really like the shoes because they had two straps across the toes instead of one strap—buh! By the way, Toni's shoe size is somewhere between a 7 and 7 1/2 and her dress size is zero to one. Remember back in the day when women could be divas if they were size 10? But along came divas like Toni Braxton, Jada Pinkett and Fran Drescher (The Nanny) with these one and zero dress sizes to mess things up!

IN OTHER GOSSIP: One of our New York City scoop "dogs" overheard the conversation of two women at a restaurant discussing some recent

'Snapshots: Glimpses of an America in Change'

Anna Deavere Smith to Speak at Kent Place School

SUMMIT—Anna Deavere Smith, the actress, playwright, and professor, is giving a program at Kent Place School, Thursday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m., 42 Norwood Avenue. Admission is \$25.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students. The topic of Smith's lecture, the third of a series of annual lectures presented by the school, is "Snapshots: Glimpses of an America in Change."

Anna Deavere Smith is an important new voice in American theater. She is best known as the author and performer of two one-woman shows, "Twilight: Los Angeles 1992" and "Fires in the Mirror," about exploding racial tensions and the widening gulf in race relations in American cities. These shows are part of a continuing series called "On the Road: A Search for American Character."

Smith interviewed more than 200 Los Angeles residents while researching "Twilight" the original production, staged in Los Angeles. Smith seamlessly transformed herself into 23 of these racially diverse L.A. residents. She mastered 46 different characters for the expanded New York production which won two Tony nominations and won an Obie. She used the same interviewing techniques to create the earlier "Fires in the Mirror," about the riots that rocked the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. "Snapshots" is Smith's follow-up to "Twilight: Los Angeles 1992" contains excerpts of her interviews with people whom she thought best represented the diversity in the United States, including N'laria, a juror from



Anna Deavere

the Rodney King case and Reginald Denny, who was beaten during the riots. Lloyd Rose of the Washington Post says, "She is a camera. She is also a tape recorder, a mimic, a chameleon, a journalist, an editor, a writer and an actor. She is a performance artist the way the hope Diamond is a rock."

Smith is currently working on the next addition to the "On the Road" series which examines the relationship between the Presidency and the media. She says, "I want to really explore the role of the person who symbolizes America for a lot of the world - the President of the United States."

In addition to her theatrical work, Smith has appeared in Hollywood films such as Philadelphia and The

American President. She is also working on a screenplay, Sequestered Jury, for Columbia Pictures. Smith, who recently was awarded a "genius" grant by the MacArthur Foundation, continues to teach at Stanford University as the Ann O'Day Maples Professor of the Arts.

Committed to being a community resource on women's issues and education, Kent Place School began the Speaker Series in 1994, its Centennial year, with a talk by Anna Quindlen. In 1996, Doris Kearns Goodwin delivered the second lecture. This year, Kent Place joins the dialogue on diversity in Summit by bringing Anna Deavere Smith to campus.

For more information, contact the Development Office at (908) 273-0900 ext.244.

Live town meeting to focus on teen pregnancy

WASHINGTON, DC—Almost one million teenage girls become pregnant each year according to the National Campaign To Prevent Teen Pregnancy. In addition, the teen birth rate in the U.S. is the highest of any industrialized nation—nearly twice the rate of the next highest.

To raise awareness about the seriousness of this problem, Teen Summit, Black Entertainment Television's (BET) award-winning, talk-performance show for teenagers, will hold a live, nationally-televised town meeting on Saturday, May 3, 1997 from noon-2:00 p.m. EST. The town meeting, held in conjunction with the Campaign, is entitled, "Don't Kick Yourself... Teen Pregnancy is No Joke" and will be shot live from BET's production facility.

A first in a series of outreach programs involving the Campaign, the town meeting will be moderated by Teen Summit hosts Ananda and DaJaur. A panel of experts involved in teen pregnancy prevention including Dr. Renee Jenkins of Howard University Medical School, representatives from the Campaign and several celebrity guests will speak candidly about the consequences of teen pregnancy, methods of prevention and the need to involve boys and young men. Teen



On the set of Teen Summit

Summit will continue to feature segments throughout May that discuss teen pregnancy issues.

"So many families, especially young girls and boys, just think it won't happen to them but with the high rates of girls becoming pregnant before age 20, the odds aren't in their favor unless they are proactively practicing abstinence or safe sex," says Teen Summit host Ananda. "That's why it's so important for us to do this show and start a nationwide dialogue with families and teenagers that's from

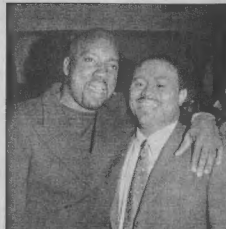
their perspective and voice—which is what Teen Summit is all about."

Campaign Director Sarah Brown says, "The teen years are for education and skill-building, not pregnancy and parenthood. Teen pregnancy is not inevitable—but avoiding it requires action, nationally and individually. The Campaign is helping people figure out what they can do so that their sons and daughters, sisters and brothers don't get caught up in this serious problem."

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

TV

THE AFRICAN HERITAGE NETWORK CELEBRATES THE ACQUISITION OF THE NATIONAL BARTER TIME OF THE POPULAR SERIES, NEW YORK UNDERCOVER



Malik Yoba and Frank Mercado-Valdes at the AHN gathering at Soul Cafe

NEW YORK—Agala event was held Tuesday night hosted by Frank Mercado-Valdes, president, The African Heritage Network, to celebrate the acquisition of the national barter time of the second lecture runs of the popular drama series, New York Undercover.

This is the first time in the history of broadcast that a minority owned company has purchased a network series for syndication.

As a result of the acquisition, The African Heritage Network will have 14 minutes of national broadcast inventory per week for a two-year period beginning in the fall of 1998. The show will be cleared in 110 markets representing 80% of the country and 90% of African-American and Latino households. This acclaimed series currently ranks in the top 3 network programs among black TV households.

"New York Undercover is one of the few shows that portrays minorities in a positive manner and because of AHN's long standing relationship with advertising agencies and marketers targeting the African-American TV audience, this is an ideal opportunity," says Mercado-Valdes. The African-American and Latino markets are critical to the success of many products and New York Undercover will help advertisers reach those important markets.

Malik Yoba, Michael Delorenzo and Lauren Velez, stars of New York Undercover, attended the event along with show producers Reggie Bythewood and James Mutum. Other guests who attended to support this milestone were Reverend Al Sharpton, Byron Lewis, president of Uniworld and executives from Universal Television.

WNBC'S CHANG ONLY LOCAL REPORTER TO WIN PRESTIGIOUS PEBODY



Ti-Hua Chang

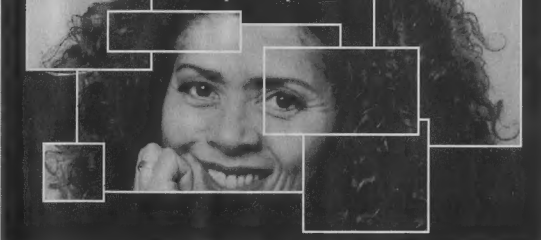
New York, NY—WNBC reporter Ti-Hua Chang has achieved a prestigious 1996 George Foster Peabody Award for his report, "Passport to Kill." Chang will be honored with the Peabody on May 12th at an awards ceremony taking place at the Waldorf Astoria in New York.

"Passport to Kill" aired last June on News Channel 4's "Live at Five." In the 15-minute report, Chang uncovered how Dominican killers of more than 200 New Yorkers including some children fled to the Dominican Republic and were shielded by outmoded extradition laws and rampant corruption. He also filed eight follow-up reports that resulted in further investigation by the NYPD and the enforcement of extradition laws in the Dominican Republic.

Chang has been a reporter at

WNBC since 1993 and has covered numerous stories for "News Channel 4," often traveling around the globe. In March of '96, he reported from Tel Aviv on the string of terror blasts overtaking the city. He also reported from Bosnia on the war-torn country as he travelled with an American Convoy throughout several combat-ravaged cities. Some of Chang's investigative reports for WNBC also include the City's takeover of the Fulton Fish Market and the surprisingly easy ways to order a gun through the mail.

Kent Place School is proud to present



"snapshots: Glimpses of an America in change."

A lecture and performance by Anna Deavere Smith

Thursday, May 8, 1997, 7:30 p.m. Kent Place School Field House
42 Norwood Avenue, Summit \$25.00 per student
For more information call (908) 273-0900 ext. 244

★★★★★

very expensive St. John knit suit, standing there with my TV cameraman. Ms. Grace walks up to me, hands me her ticket and asks where should she be seated? I thought we were long past the era when people assumed that you're the help because you're Black or Hispanic. But I guess not. Anyway, I told Mr. Cochran about the incident. He was very apologetic about it and so was Grace," reports our friend.

PLUS THIS: When President Clinton accidentally broke his leg recently he received get-well cards and flowers from well-wishers around the world. One of them was actress Whoopi Goldberg. Our sources in the White House tell us that the designer of choice for Mr. Franklin when it comes to his personal attire. And more on Franklin: We were told that he recently inked endorsement deals with Church's Chicken, Coca-Cola and Blockbuster Video. 444

AND FINALLY: For those of you who are wondering where gospel superstar Kirk Franklin gets all of those snazzy-looking clothes, it's Versace. Yep, it's Versace that Versace is the designer of choice for Mr. Franklin when it comes to his personal attire. And more on Franklin: We were told that he recently inked endorsement deals with Church's Chicken, Coca-Cola and Blockbuster Video. 444



Nancy Grace

shenanigans of music executive and producer Sean "Puffy" Combs. According to these ladies, Combs was recently shopping in a major toy store, carrying a huge bank roll of money—about \$8000. Anyway, he supposedly lost the money while in the store but a clerk found it and turned it in to the manager. After Combs was given the money back, word is he wasn't very pleasant about it—apparently, he didn't even say thank you or offer the clerk any kind of a reward!

AND IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH: The Scoop was also told about another superstar, basketball player, who was shopping in a toy store for his kid. Our sources tell us that the "tallest one" reportedly was trying to buy his toys with a certified check! Okay, The Scoop wants to know this, who's mind the money store for these African-American mega-stars? And do these guys know what credit cards are?

AND GET THIS: One of The Scoop's best friends recently had a rather shocking experience. She's a TV news reporter in New York City. At a recent major event our friend says that she was mistaken for being "the kind help." Nancy Grace, the co-host of "Cochran & Grace," Johnnie Cochran's new talk show on Court TV, thought our friend was a hotel waitress. "I was very offended by this," says our friend, "I was dressed in a

It's Time for teens to get serious about ADS

by Rev. Martin D. Odum

About a week ago I was sitting in the church office doing some work when a young man walked in. I did not recognize him as a member of the church and from first appearances he looked to be living on the streets. I asked him how I could help him and he asked me to be a word of prayer with him. I responded that I would and asked him what was his prayer need. He began to cry and he stated me in the eyes and said that he had AIDS and he did not have any friends.

I wish that there was more that I could have done for that young man. He looked about thirty years old. What I really wish is that someone would have had an opportunity to talk to him about the possible risks of HIV infection at 15 years old. And as much as I would like to place the blame on the government or irresponsible entertainers or the media, ultimately the reality for young people today is that we have to be responsible for our own behavior and its consequences. Every teenager alive should want to be an expert on HIV, how it is contracted and how it can be prevented. The reason we all need to become experts

ourselves is so that we cannot be misled or misinformed by anyone concerning HIV infection. I was very disturbed by the recent EBONY magazine cover which talked about Magic Johnson being tested by the Lord. Just looking at the cover.

It gives young people the impression that Mr. Johnson no longer has the HIV virus and that he was somehow miraculously cured. It was disturbing because it sends a message to you as young people that you can in fact live dangerously but don't worry it about because Magic Johnson got cured. Well that is simply not the case, and while it was certainly not one of

EBONY's most responsible examples of news coverage, EBONY is not responsible for protecting you from HIV, you are.

Teenagers, if you have not already begun to educate yourself about HIV then the time for you to begin is now. Don't wait until you are in touch with a friend or relative is infected to gain some information that can save your life. At St. Matthew A.M.E. Church, part of our AIDS ministry includes a Teen AIDS Prevention unit which educates teenagers in the church and community about HIV infection. These teenagers become certified peer educators who

are responsible for conducting workshops to help other teenagers learn more about AIDS. If you are interested or know some teenagers who would be interested in participating in the Teen AIDS Prevention unit then contact the church and we will put you in touch with the coordinator.

God has big plans for the hip hop generation, let us not ruin them by being poor stewards of the healthy minds and bodies with which we have been blessed. Instead let us educate ourselves and take our lives and our futures seriously by becoming informed, responsible teenagers who live so that we may be used by God.

PrayUSA! appeals for prayer for revival in America!

April of 1997 has been designated Pray USA!, 30-days of prayer and fasting for the United States. Pray USA! is a partnership of denominational and other national prayer ministries, churches, and parachurch groups acting together to mobilize prayer and fasting throughout the whole church for revival and spiritual awakening in America. Chaired by Steve Bell of Concerts of Prayer International, and coordinated by Eddie Smith of The U.S. PRAYER TRACK, PrayUSA! is a Mission America prayer initiative.

On April 27, the last Sunday in April, pastors will lead their churches in a "national day of repentance" or solemn assembly. Pray USA! will culminate in the National Day of Prayer (May 1) and March For Jesus (May 1). Pray USA! will be offered in a variety of prayer possibilities, as well as a 30-day prayer calendar. They will also be furnished with resource information. Those interested in praying will be directed to one resource ministry, while those interested in having a neighborhood house of prayer will be directed to another.

A major focus is to mobilize intercessors to pray on-site at one of many pre-selected "spiritual trouble sites" identified and researched by George Otis, Jr. and The Sentinel Group. These teams of intercessors will travel to various locations throughout the nation to fast, to pray, and to report for sins committed that may have given advantage to the enemy.

C. Peter Wager and the United Prayer Center of AD2000 & Beyond will be requesting intercessors worldwide to fast and pray during April for revival and spiritual awakening in America.

Pray USA

Self-acceptance and self-love key for good human relations

By Michael A. Grant, J.D.
Special to the NNPA

Perfection in this life is not an attainable goal. Living a fulfilled life with much contentment or peace of mind is, therefore, why agonize over the former when you can enjoy the latter?

It is so important that we accept ourselves as we are and that we learn to really love not merely indulge ourselves. We need several things. First is self-acceptance. Walter Cronkite, the celebrated news anchor, would conclude his daily chronicling of newsworthy events with an emphatic: "And that's the way it is." To paraphrase Cronkite, I would like to challenge you to take an honest look at yourself, your strengths, your weaknesses, your good judgments, your flaws, your kind gestures, and your

outbursts of anger and simple state: "And this is the way I am." Accept it. You may not be perfect but you are perfectly you! One of over 5,000,000,000 inhabitants on this small planet rotating in infinite space, you are unique in all creation.

Seeing yourself flaws and all and telling yourself that you accept who and what you are is mentally healthy and an important ingredient in your search for a formula for happiness. Accepting yourself is not tantamount to condoning undesirable behavior. Not is acceptance necessarily approving. Acceptance is acknowledging the reality of who you are at this point in your personal development.

Why is selfacceptance so important? Because you get to declare a truce with yourself. Your inner walls of resistance come down.

All of that wasted psychic energy

can now be rechanneled for more positive thinking, more constructive feeling, and more fulfilled living.

Some of the harshest judgments that we pass, we pass on ourselves. "I should have done this" or "I should have done that." "How could I have been so stupid?" or "I can never forgive myself for what I did."

If we start to listen to that nonstop conversation that goes on inside our heads, we become painfully aware that we are not accepting the reality of our frail humanity. Once we accept ourselves, forgive ourselves, and shift our focus onto what is we want to accomplish without lives, guilt, shame, low self-esteem and a sense that somehow we just do not measure up to some unachievable ideal, are replaced with a newfound inner peace.

In addition, accepting ourselves as we are is a necessary predicate for accepting others as they are. And the

benefits of this new awareness can be incalculable.

We human beings desperately want to be accepted as we are. Much of our self-worth and sense of belonging are inextricably intertwined with the degree of acceptance that we receive from others especially significant others.

Acceptance of ourselves and others is a prelude to more harmonious human relations.

Now, what about selflove? Noofreudian, Dr. Erich Fromm, once wrote: "Love is the active concern for the growth and development of the beloved." Apply this definition to the way you feel about and ultimately to your self.

Think how much, you really do love yourself (not to be confused with being stuck on yourself), how would you answer the following questions?

1. Do you find time, everyday, to do something large or small that pleases you?
2. Do you allow others to place demands on your energy and resources when you would rather say no?
3. Do you forgive yourself for the mistakes that you make?
4. Do you allow anger to fester like a sore inside you or to erupt like a volcano? (Note: Our most intense feelings of anger especially if the anger is prolonged is usually directed at ourselves. And please be forewarned that protracted, intense anger has been associated with heart attacks, ulcers, and other threatening physical conditions).
5. Do you actively pursue your

greatest interests?

6. Do you allow family members or friends to continuously make comments about you that leave you feeling anxious, insecure, intimidated, overwhelmed, or resentful?

7. Do you allow yourself to express your true feelings with individuals or within a group or do you feel that you must "go along to get along"?

8. Do you take good care of your body or is it treated like a dumping ground for toxic waste?

9. What do you tell yourself about your abilities and what you are entitled to receive from life?

10. How long do you endure unpleasant situations and people before you decide to choose a better place or more enjoyable space?

11. How often, during the course of a day, do you tell yourself:

Like self-acceptance, self-love is the starting point for living life at its best.

To use the analogy of concentric circles, like those seen when you toss a pebble into a lake, our deepest feelings for ourselves radiate out to others. In Karmic fashion, the acceptance and love yourself. Consciously listen to your own thoughts about yourself. If you choose a more positive approach with you, this old trouble will not only not get you down, but you will soon discover that you have created your own light, that when combined with the light of others like you, will help to stamp out touch of the darkness that characterizes human relations on our shrinking planet.

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Black churches launch national urban effort to reclaim lost youth

By Paul Shepard
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A national coalition of black ministers plans to fight black-on-black crime and street drug-dealing by expanding a church-based program credited with helping to lower crime in Boston.

"We have a generation of the fact orphans now drowning in their own blood," said the Rev. Eugene F. Rivers, a Boston pastor and co-founder of the new National Ten Point Leadership Foundation. "We must mobilize in defense of our own future."

At a news conference Tuesday, Rivers joined with ministers from Philadelphia, Louisville, Ky., and New York to announce the expansion of the Boston project, which includes 43 Boston-area churches.

The plan is to use black churches, often found within the nation's most crime-ridden areas, as around-the-clock sanctuaries for young people seeking refuge from street life, Rivers said. In addition, church volunteers act as missionaries to show drug dealers, gang members and other wayward youth that options exist, Rivers added.

The campaign, "Operation 2006," will mobilize 1,000 churches in 40 of the country's most dangerous neighborhoods

to start or expand anti-crime programs.

Rivers said he is seeking \$25 million from public and private sources to help push the program beyond its Boston base. The first forerunner expansion includes Philadelphia; Louisville, Ky.; Chester, Pa.; and Tampa, Fla., Rivers said.

The project is modeled after Boston's Ten Point Coalition, which began five years ago in response to escalating black-on-black violence.

The coalition is a network of churches that reaches out to violent youths with mentors, counseling, job-training centers and work programs. It works closely with city and law enforcement officials and businesses.

The project is credited with contributing to a 39 percent decrease in Boston's murder rate from 1995 to 1996 and bringing further progress so far in 1997.

"We are about the business of bringing the impossible into the realm of the real," said the Rev. Jeffrey Brown, a Boston minister and coalition member.

Asked what happened to drug-selling young people confronted by the church workers, Rivers said some continued to play their trade at different locations but added "some got saved."

The notion of church-based projects to remodel urban America has picked up steam recently. In February, Christian Coalition leader Ralph Reed announced an urban outreach program called "The Samaritan Project." The plan would have volunteer families take up residence in poor urban areas to help people there.

Rivers said he was challenging Reed and other white Christians groups "to move beyond platitudes and sound bites."

"We need a new conversation," Rivers said. "We need them to put material resources on the table to help and move beyond the rhetoric."

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Tiger Woods is the master

Continued from page 1

another milestone, the greatest winning margin in any major since Tom Morris Sr. in 1862 who won the British Open by 13 strokes. His first place check of \$480,000 gave him \$1,737,594 in earnings since turning pro last year. Once his final putt secured his victory, Woods was fighting back tears as he hugged his father Earl, who had recently underwent surgery, and his mother Tida. For him and his family, it was a lifelong dream come true, and Woods is already becoming an inspiration and a legend.

He was born July 21, 1976, the year after Elder's historic Masters game. He had been known in golf circles as a child prodigy, playing the game since he was 5 and appearing on television with his father demonstrating his skills. He was one of junior golf's most ac-

complished players. He won three straight U.S. Junior Amateur titles in 1991, 1992, and 1993, and three U.S.



Calvin Peete

Amateur Titles in 1994, 1995, and 1996. In August, he turned pro, and, through his victories in the rest of the year, quickly rose through the ranks, gaining the respect and admiration from his peers and golf fans alike. For them, he is a phenomenon, one that many hope will open doors in the sport to more minorities. Many also feel he has garnered more interest in the sport among young people.

Tiger Woods, however, put this historic win and his whole career in perspective as he put on his green Masters jacket. "I was the first," he said, "but I wasn't the pioneer. Charlie Sifford, Lee Elder, Teddy Rhodes—those are the ones who paved the road for me to be here. And I think them, because if I wasn't for them, I might not have had the chance to play at all."

Words of inspiration may be said about Tiger Woods as time goes on. There are other goals he is eyeing. Winning the Masters, U.S. Open, British Open, and the PGA in the same year is on his mind now, as well as breaking the record score of 59 for a competitive round. Considering the talent that he has displayed this far, those goals may be inevitable.

Lee feels film about '63 bombing his best

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP)—Film director Spike Lee always wanted to make a documentary about the 1963 bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

When he graduated from Morehouse College 15 years ago, Lee wrote a letter to Chris McNair, father of one of the four young girls killed in the bombing, about making the film.

McNair said he struck the letter in a drawer because Lee had never made any films.

Lee has finally made the documentary—which he filmed in Alabama last year and called "Four Little Girls"—and it will air on HBO next February.

"I have always been intrigued by trying to get the real story with what happened with the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church," Lee told more than 100 people Monday at a \$50-a-plate dinner at Alabama A&M University.

"If I feel this is the best film I've done, it's better than Malcolm X or Do the Right Thing," he said.

Lee spent time in Alabama last year conducting interviews and shooting film for the documentary. The visit also included an interview with former Gov. George Wallace.

Lee was in Huntsville on Monday night to help raise money for A&M's Council Challenge Campaign, which is trying to raise \$50 million for the university over the next 10 years.

Lee's first film was the 1986 romantic comedy "She's Gotta Have It." He followed that with a string of films—School Daze, Do the Right Thing and Jungle Fever—that depicted race relations. In 1992 he directed Malcolm X, a biography of the slain civil rights leader.

McNair said when he finally met Lee, the filmmaker mentioned the letter.

"I said I didn't think you were ready to do it," McNair said. "He looked at me and said 'I want it, but I didn't know I want it.'"

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Cable neglects equal opportunity

Continued from page 6

spectrum—and, I might add billions of dollars worth of microwave service—in the cable antenna relay service—to licensees it knew would never hire a Black man or woman in any capacity except that of janitor would never hire a Black man or woman on the air except in news stories focusing on crime, and wouldn't even allow a Black station to sponsor the devotional messages which concluded the broadcast day.

Generations of White Men received a vast head start in obtaining the skills, experience, and network of contracts required to become media owners. Those denied these opportunities in the 1950s—due to racism—lost their chance to be broadcast station and cable system managers in the 1960s, general managers in the 1970s, entrepreneurs in the 1980s and broadcast group or multiple cable system owners in the 1990s.

In 1978, the FCC realized at last that because the airwaves belonged to the people, and we were part of "the people," it had to do something to ensure that we would attain ownership of our fair share of the spectrum resource. This wasn't going to be easy, because 99% of the spectrum had already been given away to Whites.

But the FCC tried anyway, adopting the "tax certificate policy," which meant that companies selling a broadcast station or a cable system to minorities could defer the capital gains tax. This enabled over 200 broadcasting stations to find their way into Black and Brown hands nationwide. This policy hardly prevented

Whites from being media owners—after all, by 1995, minorities still owned only 2.7% of broadcast stations, less than half of one percent of cable systems, and less than three-tenths of a percent of broadcast and cable industry asset value.

Unfortunately, in 1995, right wing ideologues took away this incentive of Whites to sell, and thus removed from Blacks and Browns the ability to buy. For the first time ever, minority media ownership is in free fall. For now we can thank the loss of the tax certificate policy—as well as the growth in media monopolization permitted by the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

In 1996, we saw approximately a 15% decline in minority owned stations for the year 2004. Here is another threat to our wellbeing we have to watch closely: we are witnessing a return to segregation in educational facilities in the context of

Internet-access computer services in the schools. In February 1995, the Department of Education said that Black and Brown children are about 30% less likely than White children to have Internet-access computers in their classrooms.

This "computer segregation" threatens to condemn another generation of young people to second-class employment, economic status, and citizenship. For all of the talk about the "computer revolution" in the schools, little is being done to ensure that every child will learn how to use the Internet—from a teacher who knows how.

This is a survival issue. Knowing one's way around the Internet will be every bit as essential to being an educated person in the year 2000 as reading, writing and arithmetic were essential to being an educated person in 1900.

Torricelli waffles

Continued from page 1

The Council defined three items they are asking of Torricelli: 1) Acknowledge he made the commitment, 2) publicly apologize to the Council, and Jackson, and 3) appoint a person to be a liaison between him and the African-American community, particularly the Council.

"Our remaining Senator Torricelli was not our trying to name who his staff should be, but it was our attempt

to hold accountable those who we helped to put in office," Jackson said.

Jackson also said that he expects Torricelli to be a good senator, but he would like to begin grooming and training persons to run for office that will serve the interests of the Black community. Earlier, the three Democrat gubernatorial candidates spoke to the Council on how they can best serve the community. Jackson did point out, however, that the Council will not endorse anyone in the race.

Wynton Marsalis among Pulitzer winners

By Michael Kuchwara
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—Trumpeter Wynton Marsalis became the first jazz composer to win the Pulitzer Prize for music Monday, receiving the award for "Blood on the Fields," his opera on slavery.

"It means it'll be more easy for other musicians who write in jazz," a coolly collected Marsalis, an eight-time Grammy winner, said from his Manhattan apartment. "The value of the music is being recognized."

The piece, written for 14 musicians and three singers, was commissioned by Lincoln Center, where Marsalis has been artistic director of its Jazz at Lincoln Center for the last decade.

"Blood on the Fields" centers on two people, Jesse and Leona, who arrive in America on a slave ship. "It's about them and it's about the music—the music is a character," said the 35-year-old Marsalis. "The musicians are like a Greek chorus. They comment on what's going on."

The three-hour composition has had a mixed reception during a recent tour. When it was performed in New York earlier this year, some critics said it was too rambling and too long.

Frank McCourt's best-selling "Angela's Ashes: A Memoir," his bitterest remembrances of growing up in the slums of Limerick, Ireland, won the prize for biography.

"This is an ecstatic moment," the 66-year-old McCourt said as he pepped the cork on a bottle of champagne with his wife, Ellen, in a Cambridge, Mass., hotel room.

The author, who taught English for much of his career in the New York public school system, said the critically embraced book was named for

his mother who wouldn't have liked it. "It was too revealing," he explained. "She was ashamed of our past... Her way of expressing her emotions would have been to cry."

For the first time since 1986, no award was given for drama. Although three finalists were considered, "the board felt none of them" fulfilled the criteria for a Pulitzer, said awards administrator Seymour Topping.

There have been 13 other occasions when no Pulitzer has been awarded in drama. This season, on Broadway and off, no American play has received unanimous raves from the critics with most of the attention going to a previous Pulitzer winner, "The Young Man from Atlanta" or imports from London like "Skyline," "Stanley," and "A Doll's House."

Lied Mueller, a German immigrant, took the poetry prize, winning for "Alive Together: New and Selected Poems."

"I don't think about awards when I write poetry," the 73-year-old Mueller said from her home in Lake Forest, Ill. "But when they come, they come out of the blue because I certainly didn't expect this."

The fiction prize went to Steven Millhauser for "Martin Dressler: The Tale of an American Dreamer." Millhauser, 53, teaches English at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. His novel follows the career of a shopkeeper's son who becomes the owner of a hotel.

"It was startling," Millhauser said of his win. "I was quite serious that there was an error and I'm not entirely sure there isn't an error."

Richard Kluger won the general non-fiction Pulitzer for "Ashes to Ashes: America's Hundred-Year Cigarette War, the Public Health, and the Unabashed Triumph of Philip Morris."

Kluger, 62, has had a long career in



Wynton Marsalis

journalism including jobs at The Wall Street Journal, the New York Post, Forbes magazine and the New York Herald-Tribune.

Jack N. Rakove, a 49-year-old professor at Stanford University, took the history award for "Original Meanings: Politics and Ideas in the Making of the Constitution." The book, according to one reviewer, "offers a deeply satisfying account of the political turmoil from which the United States Constitution issued."

"I really started the project in 1983," Rakove said. "At first, the book was going to be an article in the bimonthly (of the Constitution) and the debate about the original intent helped persuade me to go ahead with the project. I think it came out better because of the time it took to write it."

Topping said the Marsalis piece has "strong jazz elements. This is a first for the music category." He said a change would be made next year in the definition of the music category, broadening it to read: "For distinguished musical composition of significant dimension." He said the effect of the old definition "has been to encourage classical music."

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